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APR 24 2007

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

It is not believed the objection to claims 17-18 apply to the amended claims.

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-13, 17-18, 20-21 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Claim 20 was additionally and separately rejected under this statute. Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection has been overcome because the term "skin disease" in claim 1 has been amended to read to "allergic skin disease". Note that claim 22 refers to "allergic dermatitis" and was not included in the §112, first paragraph rejection.

Furthermore, with respect to the rejection of claim 20, a person of skill in the art can easily combine compounds of formula 1 with any pharmaceutical agent that stimulates cAMP production using his common general knowledge in order to carry out the presently claimed method. In view of the foregoing, withdraw of all rejections under §112, first paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-13, 15 and 20-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. 6,251,923 (Hofgen). Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection does not apply to the presently pending claims; note that claims 17 and 18 which refer to administration of the compound after an allergic challenge were not rejected. Thus, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-13, 15, 17-18 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) over Baumer. Applicants submit that, according to Baumer, AWD12-281 was administered before the allergic challenge (see p. 196, under Section 2.2, third bullet point). Thus, the rejection does not apply to the presently pending claims.

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-13 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Ehinger.

The presently pending claims are not anticipated by Ehinger because Ehinger does not disclose the treatment of an allergic skin disease by topically administering AWD12-281 after the allergic challenge with TDI. Again, note that claims 17 and 18 were not included in this rejection.

Claims 20 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for allegedly being unpatentable over the combination of Ehinger and Winget. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Ehinger is deficient in disclosure as discussed above. Winget does not overcome this deficiency, thus this rejection should be withdrawn.

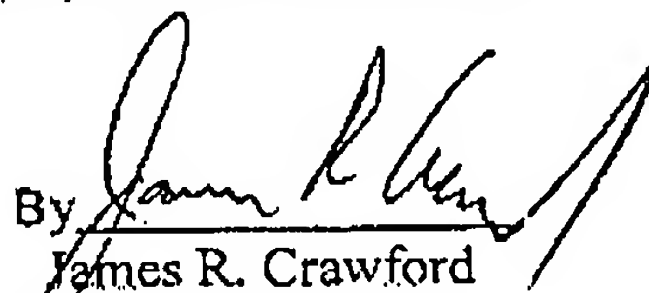
It is also believed that the amended claims overcome the obviousness-type double patenting rejection over claims of co-pending application no. 10/856,034 since claims 17 and 18 were not rejected.

In view of the foregoing, allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 50-0624, under Order No. NY-HUBR-1221-US. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted

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